

Board of Education Minutes  
September 9, 2015  
Special Meeting

**DRAFT**

A special meeting of the North Stonington Board of Education was held on Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Gymnasium Band Room. Present were Mr. Carlson, Mr. Mathwich, Mr. McCord, Mr. Karpinski, Mrs. Wagner, Mrs. Buzzee, and Mr. Mendolia (7:24 p.m.). Also present were Mr. Nero, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Wilkison, Mrs. Costa, Mrs. St. Germain, and Mr. Chaney. Chairman Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Public Comment with Students Speaking First – None.
4. Community relations – The first meeting of the North Stonington Education Foundation is a week from tomorrow. The PTO meetings have been moved to the first Thursday of the month. Mr. Nero thanked The United Way for their donation of the school supplies.
5. Presentation – Girl Scout Gold Award Project – Miss Kylie Garcia gave a handout to the Board. She explained her project and the reason she chose to do this project. On a motion by Mrs. Wagner, seconded by Mrs. Buzzee, the Board voted unanimously to approve Miss Garcia’s Girl Scout Gold Award, Crafting Connections.
6. Administrators’ Reports – Mrs. St. Germain spoke of happenings at the middle/high school. She talked about the number of students that had transferred into the district and gave a breakdown of students transferring out. She handed out testing information and explained. She had further comment. Mr. Chaney had further explanation. Mr. Nero had comment. Board members had questions that were answered. There was discussion. Further questions were asked and answered. Mrs. Wilkison said there was an excellent start to the school year at the elementary school. The current enrollment is 366. She spoke of events at the elementary school including open house and the Envision Math presentation prior to open house, the parents will be invited in for a math open house where they can visit math classes, and The Governor’s Reading Challenge celebration will take place. Mrs. Wilkison passed out testing information. She reviewed the information and the scores. Mr. Nero commended Mrs. Wilkison and her staff. Questions were asked and answered. There was comment. Mr. Nero had comment.
7. Administrative – a. Approval of Minutes – August 19, 2015 – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mr. Mendolia, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2015, meeting.  
  
August 27, 2015 – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mr. Karpinski, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2015, Tri-Board meeting.
- b. Correspondence – None.

- c. Personnel – A reception will be held for new teachers at the next meeting.
8. Reports – a. Superintendent – Mr. Nero had comment on the opening of school. He said the state has just approved the use of an item that can be used on the grubs. He had comment. Our consultant is hopeful that it would help our situation. He had further comment on the fields. He spoke of coming up with a plan to phase in an irrigation system for our fields. He had further comment. Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Nero spoke of the safety and security plan. He spoke of our key card system and elaborated. Questions were asked about seeking further grants and Mr. Nero answered. There was comment about putting our grant award history on the web site. Further questions were asked and answered.
- b. BOE Chairperson – Mr. Carlson said the project with CCRI got the go ahead. He had further comment. Mr. Nero had comment. He said the four superintendents will be working with the Royce Foundation on this. He had further comment. Questions were asked and answered. Mr. Carlson commented on attendance. He said this is an important year and said it is important to get to our meetings. He had further comment. Mr. Carlson commented on the liaisons for the Ad Hoc Committee and the PSPBC.
- c. Committee Chairs – No report.
- d. LEARN Board of Directors Liaison – No report.
- e. PSPBC Liaison – Mr. Carlson commented on when the PSPBC meets. Mr. Mathwich had comment on the \$75,000 line item that committee works with. He felt if we have needs, we should ask for more money for that line item. There was comment and discussion.
- f. Ad Hoc Building Committee – Mr. Carlson had comment on the first meeting. He and Mr. Mathwich attended. Questions were asked and answered. The Ad Committee would like a tour of the facilities. He had further comment. There was discussion.
9. Finance – None.
10. Old Business – a. Election of a Vice-Chairperson – Mr. Carlson asked for nominations for a Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Karpinski nominated Christine Wagner and Mr. Mathwich seconded the nomination. The Board voted unanimously to appoint Christine Wagner as vice chairperson.
- b. Tri-Board Meeting Update – Mr. Carlson said the Ad Hoc School Building Committee was introduced at the last meeting. The working group will be meeting. Mr. Carlson had further comment. The next meeting is on September 24<sup>th</sup>.

c. Trash Bids – Mrs. Allen said there were only two bids received and there was a significant difference in the bids. She reviewed the bids. Questions were asked and answered. There was discussion and comment. Mrs. Allen said the contract has already been signed.

11. New Business – a. Superintendent’s Conferences – Mr. Nero passed out a sheet detailing his conferences. He will be attending the NEASC conference and FETC (Florida Educational Technology Conference). He had comment. Questions were asked and answered. On a motion by Mrs. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to approve sending the Superintendent to these two conferences.

12. Calendar – a. Future Meeting Dates – The Tri-Board meeting will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup> and the next Board of Education meeting is September 30<sup>th</sup>.

b. Committee Action List – None.

13. Public Comment – None.

14. Proposed for Executive Session – a. Discussion of Grounds Bids – On a motion by Mr. Mathwich, seconded by Mr. McCord, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. for the Purpose of Discussion of Grounds Bids and to invite Mrs. Allen into such session.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:52 p.m.

15. Groundskeeper Position – No action needed.

On a motion by Mrs. Buzzee, seconded by Mr. Mathwich, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Roberta T. McCarthy, Secretary to  
The Board of Education